

Lesson Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Lesson ID: 52854-09221

Title: CROWD CONTROL AND THE USE OF THE RIOT BATON VS WEAPON (M-16)

Operation/Exercise Name: SPMAGTF LOS ANGELES 92      Observed: 29 May 1992

Originator: 1ST LAI BN

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5. (U) OBSERVATION:

Marines in crowd control formation cannot adequately use both a riot baton and the M-16 weapon.

6. (U) DISCUSSION:

Marines in crowd control formations cannot simultaneously use both a riot baton and M-16. The use of both is awkward and clumsy and not efficient.

7. (U) LESSON LEARNED:

Marines in the front ranks of the riot formation should stand with batons in hand and weapons slung over their backs. The reaction force may be armed with M-16's in this case. If the situation escalates the reaction force should then use weapons.

8. (U) RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Marines in front ranks of riot formations should use batons and have their M-16's slung over their backs. Reaction force should be armed with M-16's.

9. (U) COMMENTS:

None.

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